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MOUNT RAINIER DECISION — Page five

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*Our magnificent national parks contain many of the world's sublimest scenes. The primeval forests—trees older than the oldest nation—splendid peaks, matchless wild flower fields, vast and colored canyons, thousands of near-tame wild birds and wild animals, the serenity and pure air, have for everyone some of the great needs of life that nothing else can supply.*

ENOS A. MILLS.



# NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE

Published quarterly by The National Parks Association

An independent, non-profit organization with nation-wide membership  
guarding America's heritage of scenic wilderness

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DEVEREUX BUTCHER, Editor

JANUARY-MARCH 1955

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NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE, formerly National Parks Bulletin, has been published since 1919 by the National Parks Association. It presents articles of importance and of general interest relating to the national parks and monuments, and is issued quarterly for members of the Association and for others who are interested in the preservation of our national parks and monuments as well as in maintaining national park standards, and in helping to preserve wilderness. (See inside back cover.) School or library subscription \$2 a year.

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National Parks Association

**Dream Lake in Rocky Mountain National Park.—“Many visitors have been shocked to witness activities still going on in certain parks and monuments, which are entirely out of place and contrary to policy.”**



## GUARD THIS HERITAGE

By ROBERT E. LAFONTAINE, Member

National Parks Association

ON that memorable night of September 19, 1870, around a campfire, the members of the Washburn-Doane Expedition were discussing the fabulous Yellowstone. They had come here as disbelievers of the "tall tales" about the region, which had been circulating since 1807, when John Colter, the trapper, saw it. They no longer were in doubt. One member of the party, Cornelius Hedges, expressed the opinion that the Yellowstone country should be preserved as a national park, and in 1872 it was so designated by Congress.

This was the beginning of a chapter in American history, and one that has had a strong influence on the American way of life. From it has evolved our glorious national park system of which we are justly proud.

The addition of almost every unit to the system has been the result of effort by one man or a group of men. John Muir was the father of Yosemite National Park, Enos Mills of Rocky Mountain National Park, George W. Stewart of Sequoia, George Bird Grinnell of Glacier, and William Gladstone Steel of Crater Lake. Each labored tirelessly to keep these areas of scenic grandeur intact for our everlasting benefit and enjoyment.

The National Park Service, which administers the national parks and monuments, was created on August 25, 1916. Under the courageous and able leadership of Stephen T. Mather, first director, its standards were set high. Ever since Mather's time, the Service has striven to uphold those standards and to defend the parks against men who would harm them.

Those who would despoil the parks for personal gain have been at work down

through the years. They have urged Congress to enact laws that would give them the right to graze cattle and sheep in the parks, to log forests, to build dams, to deface the park landscapes with mine tailings, to construct chair lifts and cable tramways.

One grab succeeded. At the request of the City of San Francisco, a dam was authorized, in 1913, to be built in Yosemite's Hetch Hetchy Valley, and construction was completed in 1923. Hetch Hetchy was second only to Yosemite Valley itself in the glorious beauty of its landscapes. For five years John Muir fought to prevent this dam from being built, pointing to feasible alternative dam sites. The struggle so seriously weakened Muir's health that it may have been the cause of his death on Christmas Eve, 1914, the year following the unfavorable decision. Let us benefit by the lesson of Hetch Hetchy and the permanent loss of that scenic valley.

Today, another battle is being fought in defense of a unit of the national park system, namely, Dinosaur National Monument, in Utah and Colorado. The Secretary of the Interior favors the building of Echo Park dam, which would inundate the canyons of the Yampa and Green rivers, and alter a region of superb scenic splendor. Here again feasible alternative sites are available. If Dinosaur National Monument is saved, it should be redesignated a national park, for it fully measures up to the standards for the great parks. Even now, the area is becoming popular for its boat rides through the Yampa and Green river canyons.

We, as Americans, have a vital stake in this matter of park and monument protec-

tion. There must be an ever-widening sphere of public enlightenment concerning park matters. The best means by which to inform the public is through press, radio and television. Newspaper editors have a vital responsibility in this endeavor. Park issues should be given front page publicity. If national organizations such as the Kiwanis, the Moose, Rotary and the Elks would learn the issues and discover what is at stake, and would inform their members, the national parks would gain widely increased support. The way to keep abreast of what is taking place in national park affairs is to become a member of the National Parks Association.

Many visitors have been shocked to witness activities still going on in certain parks and monuments, which are entirely out of place and contrary to policy. Lumbering and mining operations, livestock grazing, homesteading and unsightly tourist attractions are only a few. Usually these activities occur on private holdings inside the parks and monuments. In the 83rd Congress an Act was passed appropriating funds for private inholdings, but still a great deal more money is needed for this purpose; so here again is where the people must act.

Some who have visited the parks may have been annoyed by the run-down condition of facilities—poor roads, unsafe guard rails, untidy picnic areas and campgrounds. The National Park Service is given but a fraction of the money needed to maintain and administer properly the system. There may be justification for the talk of closing some of the more popular parks, for it might be a good answer to inadequate funds.

The National Park Service is in the Department of the Interior, which also has charge of the bureaus of Mines, Land Management and Reclamation. Enos Mills believed that the national parks should be represented by a secretary of national parks. Certainly the parks deserve the best protection.

We have been blessed with a remarkable heritage—the system of national parks and monuments. Men of vision have worked hard to establish it, and it is our duty to see that it remains unimpaired for future generations of Americans. In the years to come, with a continuous rise in human population and increasing industrial and agricultural expansion, each park will be like an oasis, refreshing those who seek inspiration from it.

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## WRIGHT ARCHITECTURE REJECTED BY PARK SERVICE

It is gratifying to report that the Park Service found the Frank Lloyd Wright design for a Yosemite Valley restaurant out of harmony with the park, and turned it down.

Submitted to the Service for approval in November, it was returned to the concessioner, who employed Wright, with the request the external design be altered. According to Park Service Director Wirth, "It was a mushroom-dome type of thing. A thing to see, instead of being for service." Apparently the architect sought to reflect Yosemite's domes; but as might be expected, a design by this architect almost certainly would be so startling as to compete with nature for attention.

National parks are to exhibit the wonders and beauties of nature and not the works of man. Any alteration of a park landscape is an intrusion on nature. It is imperative, therefore, that buildings blend harmoniously with their surroundings. Our congratulations go to the Park Service for its wise decision. May it continue to reject flashy or weird attention-getting designs. Already a few strange-appearing structures by "little Frank Lloyd Wrights" have crept in, and they will long remain as eye-sores in the areas where they are located.

# MOUNT RAINIER DECISION

In a news release dated December 22, Secretary of the Interior Douglas McKay announced his decision to reject the proposed tramway for Mount Rainier National Park.\* In the release, he also discussed plans for developing the park for greater public winter use—plans calling for further study to determine the feasibility of installing, among other things, a T-bar lift nearly a mile long at the park's Paradise Valley.

Members will recall that, following the National Park Service's decision a year ago to allow T-bar lifts to be constructed in Rocky Mountain National Park's Hidden Valley, we published a report on this in our January-March 1954 magazine.\*\* Entitled *A T-Bar Lift for Rocky Mountain*, the report concluded with the one-sentence resolution of our executive committee: **"The National Parks Association disapproves any mechanical ski development in the national park system."**

It was our original intention to publish here an editorial on the Secretary's decision and development plan, but it was later decided to withhold this for our April-June magazine, and to publish his news release in full in this issue. Our purpose for doing this is twofold: First, since the Secretary's announcement came close to our publication date, we wanted more time to study the plan, particularly at the winter meeting of our executive committee; and secondly, to invite Association members to express their opinions about the tramway decision and development plan in letters to the editor, with the view perhaps to having them quoted either in the editorial or in the "letters" section of the April issue. Therefore, after you have read and carefully studied the news release text, which is printed below, please drop your editor a line and tell him your opinion of Secretary McKay's tramway decision and his development plan for Mount Rainier National Park.

## Interior Secretary Outlines Mount Rainier Program to Washington Governor

**A** COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAM for the development of facilities to permit fuller public enjoyment of the winter beauty and recreational opportunities in Mount Rainier National Park, Washington, was announced today by Secretary of the Interior Douglas McKay.

\* See *Mount Rainier—a Resort* in NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE for April-June 1954, and *The Mount Rainier Resort Plan* in the July-September 1954 issue.

\*\* See *A Chair Lift for Rocky Mountain National Park?* in NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE for January-March 1954, and *A T-Bar Lift for Rocky Mountain* in the same issue.

In a letter to Governor Arthur B. Langlie, of Washington, transmitting results of studies of winter use potentialities at Mount Rainier, Secretary McKay outlined the development program which he has approved.

In announcing the extensive improvement program, Secretary McKay declared that the erection of a tramway or other permanent transportation facilities is "not necessary" and would be given no further consideration in Mount Rainier development plans.

"This program can best be explained," Secretary McKay wrote, "by dividing it into two parts; the first are those projects which have been accomplished, or are in progress, and the second, those projects

which require further engineering data and funds before they can be undertaken.

"A. Projects under way: 1. The road to Paradise Valley is being kept open throughout the winter. 2. At Paradise, rope ski tows have been installed by the park concessioner. 3. The park concessioner is operating in Paradise Lodge a ski shop, first-aid room, warming facilities, and lunch service. 4. The Cayuse Pass-Tipsoo Lake ski area on the east side of the park is again open and increased use there is expected. 5. Work on the Stevens Canyon road is being pushed to completion at an estimated cost of \$5,324,000, of which \$902,600 was appropriated for the current fiscal year. Barring unforeseen difficulties, this road will be open to public use for the 1957 summer season. 6. The collection of entrance fees at Ohanapecosh on the east side highway has been discontinued.

"B. Projects in the approved program that require further engineering study and funds before they can be undertaken: 1. A new section of road between Marmot Point and the Barn Flat area of Paradise Valley, and a large parking area at Barn Flat. This would by-pass the avalanche hazards along the existing road and make it possible to expand the ski area and lengthen the ski runs in the vicinity of Paradise Lodge and Inn. 2. Detailed studies of ski tows and lifts to fit into the Marmot Point-Barn Flat development plan are being carried out this winter. Studies indicate that the new development will provide slopes for beginners and ski schools, equipped with rope tows; intermediate slope, with tandem rope tow or platter pull 2000 to 3000 feet long; and an advanced slope with several alternate ski runs, served by a T-bar lift from 3000 to 5000 feet in length. These will be installed by concessioners and will be so designed and constructed that they will not be obtrusive to the beauty of the area in winter or summer. 3. Plans and estimates will be prepared for the reconditioning of Paradise Inn and the development of campgrounds in the vicinity of Barn Flat and

Paradise Lodge. Encouragement is to be given to provide all-year overnight accommodations outside the park at lower elevations on private lands or in the national forest. 4. Plans are being made to improve warming house facilities and other services at Paradise Lodge to meet future winter use demands. 5. Further study of possible public use areas and facilities has been ordered for the north and east sides of the park, especially in the vicinity of Sunrise. Because of better all-year conditions, the availability of more usable land, and the anticipated completion of the new Stevens Canyon road, any great expansion of use can best be handled on the north and east sides of the park.

"The National Park Service believes, and I agree, that the erection of a tramway, or some other form of permanent mechanical transportation facility on the mountain side, is not necessary for the full enjoyment of the great scenic resources in Mount Rainier National Park.

"Therefore, on the basis of all the facts placed before us, no further consideration of proposals for construction of a tramway is included in our plans for future development of Mount Rainier National Park."

Secretary McKay commended Governor Langlie and his Mount Rainier National

*(Continued on page 22)*

For those who may not know, a rope tow consists of a straight line of poles extending for several hundred feet up a mountain side and supporting an endless rope that is kept revolving on pulleys by an engine. The side of the rope that travels up hill is free of the towers and pulleys so that skiers can grab it by hand and, with skis on, be dragged up the slope preparatory to the down hill run. A T-bar lift, much larger and more elaborate than the rope tow, consists of a straight line of steel towers extending up a mountain side for as much as a mile, and strung with an endless revolving steel cable kept in motion by an engine fixed at the lower end. From the cable are suspended a series of bars that look like up-side-down Ts. Each bar supports two people, one leaning against each side of the horizontal cross bar. With skis attached to feet and resting on the snow, the T-bar pulls them up the mountain.

# News from Our Western Office

C. EDWARD GRAVES, Western Representative

**G**REETINGS of the season from your western representative! My Christmas and New Year's wish—that the people of the inter-mountain states may come to recognize the sincerity of our desire to see their water problems solved without impairing the scenery of our national park system.

During the past quarter, my wife and I made a two weeks' trip to various communities in Southern California. The first stop was at Santa Barbara where conferences were held with Miss Pearl Chase, Executive Vice-President of the California Conservation Council, and with the officers of the Los Padres Chapter of the Sierra Club. At the home of Mrs. Duncan P. Jackson, until recently chairman of the Chapter, a program was given of color slides of the national parks with especial reference to Dinosaur National Monument and Mount Rainier National Park, where dam building and tramway building threaten, as described in foregoing issues of our magazine.

To this program various community leaders were invited, and in this way the message of the National Parks Association was spread throughout the city. I would be glad to offer similar programs in other cities of the West. Members of the Association are invited to contact me at Box 55, Carmel, California.

The next stop was at Los Angeles, where Mrs. Leroy Anderson, Conservation Chairman of the California Federation of Women's Clubs, was our gracious hostess. With her we attended the annual southern California meeting of the directors of the Sierra Club, followed by the annual dinner of that section. The two most important matters considered at the meeting were the authorization for a new chapter of the club in the Pacific Northwest, which was voted, and the question of attempting to

repeal the California Winter Park Authority Act. This is the organization, authorized by the California Legislature, in 1945, which is attempting to build a tramway on Mount San Jacinto, thus invading one of the few remaining wilderness areas of southern California. The Sierra Club is strongly in opposition to the tramway, but the directors refused, at least for the present, to give approval to any attempt to initiate a state-wide repeal movement.

Another important meeting that we attended was a desert campfire near Palm Desert for the purpose of starting an organization to protect Joshua Tree National Monument and other desert regions from commercial exploitation. The two current threats to the monument are a proposal to open it to mining and to build a high speed highway through it. Another threat to the desert is the demand of military authorities to open up part of the state park system for bombing ranges. Other threats are in the offing, and it was felt that now is the time for those who care for the desert to organize for its defense.

A board of seven directors, Randall Henderson, editor of the *Desert Magazine*, one of them, was chosen, with Harry C. James of Banning as chairman. (Other members are Ronald L. Johnson, Richard M. Keller, Roderick Leap, Mrs. Ralph H. Lutz, Dr. Ernest R. Tinkham and Dr. Henry M. Weber.) Subsequently the name of Desert Protective Council was adopted, and a public meeting to further the organization was held on December 5 at Indian Cove Campground, in Joshua Tree National Monument. The object of the organization is formally stated as follows: "To safeguard for wise and reverent use by this and succeeding generations those desert areas that are of unique scenic, scientific, historical, spiritual, and recreational value."



Photograph courtesy Mrs. Enos A. Mills

Enos A. Mills carried on a vigorous campaign during several years to bring about establishment of Rocky Mountain National Park.



# Guardian of the Rockies

By GRACE D. PHILLIPS

*This article commemorates the fortieth anniversary (1955) of the establishment of Rocky Mountain National Park, Colorado, and it recalls the valiant effort through many years, on the part of Enos A. Mills, to bring about this important event in the nature protection movement of North America.—Editor.*

JANUARY 26, 1915, was a rewarding day for Enos Mills. It was his day, given him by the Congress and the President of the United States. For on that date the magnificent wilderness surrounding Long's Peak was declared to be the Rocky Mountain National Park. After six years of pleading, and many more years of explanation, indoctrination and persuasion, his superb vision for Colorado and the nation had become a reality.

To make known to the people of the country the wonderland of Colorado, Enos Mills had listened and watched in the wilderness, gloried in its rigors, and endured hardships and hazards. He had been a veritable John the Baptist, proclaiming the glories of these mountains and forests. He had built an inn, to invite people to Colorado, and they had come in ever-increasing numbers. They had come—and they had picked the beautiful flowers, shot the precious birds and mammals, and let their campfires run wild. Local residents and lumbermen let forest fires burn for months, felled trees, and killed wildlife in and out of season. The Guardian of the Rockies rebelled at the wanton destruction. Was it too much to ask that others care as he did for this irreplaceable heritage?

In his dining room he would permit only a single flower to grace each table, and he cautioned his guests against plucking wildflowers, or polluting crystal streams, or shooting any living thing. When a would-be guest arrived with guns and hunting dogs, he was sent packing. Mills gave thoughtful advice about where campfires should

be built and where not, and how to be sure they were extinguished; but people only resented dictation.

In 1884, when he was fourteen, the little boy had come to the mountains of Colorado. They became his Arabian Nights. He was enthralled by the bright blue skies, the high peaks, the little beavers felling trees and building their homes, the friendly bluebirds and the primeval forests. The boy from Kansas stood awed among the tall and lovely firs and the rainbow of flowers. Early he began to explore and study everything. In every kind of weather, while earning his living as best he could, the little boy tramped alone. What kinds of trees grew on the mountains, what animals lived there, and would they be friendly? He was small and frail and alone, and a head of bright curls made him seem the more childlike. People wondered at his industry and his daring. With no companion at night in the dark woods, was he not afraid? He answered readily, in his childhood English, "What is there to be afraid of? There are no human beings around."

The fascinating beavers led him to want to know other animals. He had no gun or any weapon and never carried any, for he realized that the dwellers of the wilderness were not used to his kind, and he did not want to frighten them. At first, he watched them from a distance. Deer seemed gentle enough but timid. Of course, bears and mountain lions might be different. How could one tell? The boy who wanted to know and be friends worked on, patiently, watching and waiting.



Courtesy Mrs. Enos A. Mills  
**Mills and a faithful  
 friend on the porch  
 of Long's Peak Inn.**

At seventeen he climbed Long's Peak, and from then on he was making the climb frequently. The Great Mountain, 14,255 feet high, the greatest peak of the Estes Park region, he called "The King of the Rockies," and was the happy discoverer proclaiming his find. The rocky summit once had been considered impossible to scale. Enos made it his business to find the best way to the top and to mark a path others might ascend. The lofty peak saw his straight lithe figure in every month of the year, in daylight and at night. Guiding parties of visitors, he made the climb more than 250 times, often twice in one day.

A missionary zeal drove him to make Colorado's wonders known and to entice

others to see them. A boyhood visit to Yellowstone had given him the idea of a national park for Colorado. John Muir had inspired him to nature study. The needs of Colorado for appreciation called him, and with all his being he responded.

He was homesteading the land, and his simple cabin stands today near the foot of Twin Sisters Mountain. To further his purpose he built a lodge at the foot of Long's Peak, the renowned Long's Peak Inn. It was as artistic and harmonious with the wild surroundings as he could conceive. But merely to bring people to the Inn did not satisfy him. He wanted his guests to learn of the trees and flowers and animals. When they wasted their time dancing and playing cards, he felt thwarted. They could do that at home in the city. While here, why could they not find their enjoyment outdoors? He urged and urged, then in desperation banned the city entertainment. "You must go out at all hours," he pleaded, "explore and discover for yourselves." He never complained if they got lost and he had to send rescue parties after them. But when they did not appreciate the grandeur of the wilderness scenery, his disgust was unconcealed. A new arrival, standing there opposite the great mountain in the midst of virgin forests and flowers, said, "I have been told you have some fine scenery here. Where is it?" "I am afraid you have been misinformed," retorted the lover of Colorado, and his thin lips closed firmly.

When women came without climbing clothes, equipped only with filmy dresses and high-heeled shoes, again he was disgusted. His guests must learn outdoor ways.

The boy became a man with keen searching eyes that dominated his thin face. His forehead ran up into baldness that gave his face a high intellectual caste. The curls of his boyhood were now a red-gold mass at the back of his head, glinting in the sun. His knowledge of the mountains and forests was unrivaled. As he conducted his parties, he told about the trees, flowers, animals and all the wild, and became the expert, coveted



guide. Life in the wilderness taught him that many of the usual beliefs about wild animals are "legends," as he kindly called them. The idea of prairie dogs digging hundreds of feet to water was ridiculous, and he said so. As for wild animals attacking, he said, they never do unless provoked by man himself.

He used to sit still for hours watching a mammal or bird to learn its ways and to let it become acquainted with him; and he discovered often that it was watching him with equal interest. He would have

glimpses of a mountain lion or a bear across a stream, or above him on the slope. Other times when he retraced his steps on a homeward trip, he would see the tracks of a wild animal all along where he had been. Animals are all curious of man, and their instinct for self-preservation would lead them to watch him to know what he was like. But they never attacked, not even when he had slept under their watchful eyes.

Becoming convinced that wild animals are not naturally ferocious was only the

**Long's Peak is the park's highest mountain—14,255 feet above sea level—and it was climbed more than 250 times by Mills.**

Devereux Butcher





Fred M. Packard

Bighorn sheep are safe from gunners in the sanctuary of Rocky Mountain National Park.

beginning for Enos Mills. He sought every means to cultivate their acquaintance, no lover more eager. He made salt licks, placed food where he knew it was scarce, rescued a deer from wolves, helped a lion out of a mass of porcupine quills, and cared for orphan bear cubs. These two little bears grew up as friendly grizzlies. Johnnie and Jennie amused people for two years until, their vigor developing, Enos gave them to the Denver zoo. Years later when their benefactor visited them they recognized him, and welcomed him into their cage. He thought of wild animals as original settlers and landowners, usually with long residence in the same locality, and their rights were to be respected.

His nature talks often were about trees. He told about the Englemann spruce and alpine fir on high places at tree line, and described where other kinds of trees might be found, and why. Between 6500 and 8500 feet along the streams flourished the lovely blue spruce. Enos loved them all,

but this he called Colorado's most handsome tree. "Her beauty of form, her fluffy silver-tipped robe, her garlands of rich brown cones, make her the queen of Colorado's wild gardens."

The fir and the blue spruce he named "the evergreen poems of the wild." Aspens, if they have sun and moisture, grow at any altitude. They win people with their trembling leaves and golden autumn beauty. A great pine intrigued him. It was eight feet in diameter, and more than 115 feet tall. His *Story of a Thousand-Year Pine*, most notable of his many books, tells about it in a biography almost human.

The flowers, the birds, the rocks, the snow, the wind, no phase of nature escaped his wonder and questions. Birds, he discovered, are wild from necessity, not from nature. He was sure his feathered friends had both memory and reason. Often he risked his life for some information, as on the heights to measure the snow and the wind. When it was impossible to stand

against the winter's fury, he crawled across icy, slippery slopes until he reached 12,000 feet where the wind gauge was stationed. Sometimes the meter cups were a blur with speed. The annual snowfall at 10,000 feet proved to be more than forty feet deep. Enos kept careful watch over it to determine whether it would provide enough water in summer for the people below.

One time after a day in the cold and snow when he was almost exhausted, he was glad to reach a deserted cabin that offered shelter. He gathered dead branches and twigs for a fire to warm him. From his pocket he spilled a box of matches onto the floor and tried to pick one up, but his stiff fingers could not. Violent exercise produced no circulation. He rubbed his hands and worked with his freezing fingers to limber them. Again and again he bent over the matches, teeth chattering, but his

fingers were like sticks of ice. Desperate, he threw himself onto the floor and managed to catch a match between his teeth. Finally, working it against a log, a flame burst forth. It scorched his lips, but soon he had a blaze which sent its warmth through his body.

In his search for knowledge, risks were secondary. Once he was almost buried in a snowslide. Another time, an avalanche hurled him along in a river of rocks, trees and debris and knocked him unconscious. He reported a fearsome experience when snowblindness caught him high on the peaks.

The key to his understanding of the wild was his oneness with nature. "I have felt the spell that holds the lonely wanderer when on a still night he feels the wistful tender touch of the summer air, while the leaves whisper and listen in the moonlight,

From Moraine Park there is a wide view of Long's Peak and its lesser neighbors standing along the southern horizon.

Devereux Butcher





Fred M. Packard

and the moon-toned etchings of the pines fall upon the forest floor.

It was inevitable that his thorough experiences and first-hand knowledge should place Enos' advice in demand. Calls came from President Theodore Roosevelt and Chief Forester Gifford Pinchot asking him to lecture for the Forest Service. At first timid and self-conscious when facing the public, practice and the fire in his speaking won the day. He traveled all over the United States, everywhere leaving enthusiastic audiences. These wider contacts roused him to preach preservation of Colorado's forests and wildlife. He was an expert photographer and took captivating

The little coney or pika lives in the talus slopes of the park's highest mountains. The scene below shows a fall in sparkling St. Vrain Creek near the southeast corner of the park.

Devereux Butcher



pictures of his scenic wonderland. He developed a campaign of his own. Every fall and winter he traveled through the East, paying his own expenses, making passionate pleas for a national park in Colorado. Before he was through, he was in Washington lobbying among the mighty. No timidity, no weariness, deterred him.

When his dream was realized, it was not all of the 600 square miles he had envisioned for park protection, but he gloried in the sixty-five peaks over 10,000 feet high, the score above 13,000 feet, grand Long's Peak, and the 400 square miles of magnificent forests and glacial lakes that were reserved, with their abundant wildlife.

This achievement released him not to a life of leisure and simple enjoyment, but to yet more strenuous efforts. Obnoxious commercial inroads forced him to take up the cudgel for another sort of protection. He now fought undesirable concessions. What good a national park, if the beauty be sacrificed? This battle wore him down sorely. Next came the challenge of ignorance. In order to appreciate wild nature, people must understand it. He explored that there be appointed a staff of nature guides. This was done, and he was the first and most famous of them. Rocky Mountain National Park now has a superlative staff of ranger naturalists carrying on the tradition he started. Then he cam-

paigned for better roads and trails and campgrounds in the park. One with his devotion to a cause can know no rest from it. Our little man of energy and enthusiasm had lived too strenuously for his frail physique, and the fire within him was burning low. Exhausted, he died on September 21, 1922, when only fifty-two.

We may still meet Enos Mills in his writings. Listening and watching in the forests, he taught himself to write fluently and attained a style that in simplicity and clarity reminds one of Abraham Lincoln. His books have become nature classics, monuments to a self-educated thinker. They cover the range of nature and the outdoors he loved so well—*Your National Parks, Adventures of a Nature Guide, Watched by Wild Animals, Wild Life in the Rockies, The Spell of the Rockies, Rocky Mountain Wonderland, Wild Animal Homesteads, The Grizzly, The Beaver World, Waiting in the Wilderness, The Story of a Thousand-Year Pine, Bird Memories of the Rockies, Romance of Geology, The Story of Scotch.*

The indomitable Enos Mills has yet another memorial, and what grander one could there be than Rocky Mountain National Park? Wherever the "original inhabitants" mate and roam at peace, his spirit guards the Rockies and their creatures.

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## COLORFUL AMERICA

Your Western Representative, C. Edward Graves, who has been photographing the West in color since 1940, is offering to Association members his superb 2x2 kodachrome slide sets. Under the title *Colorful America*, the twenty-three sets vary from ten to forty slides each, and every set is accompanied by a script. They cover such subjects as the national parks, national monuments, national forests, wilderness areas, western mountains and deserts. There is also a set on the wild flowers of the Sierra Nevada, another on the trees of the Sierra Nevada, one on California's redwood country, and on the scenery of the Monterey Peninsula. The sets are valuable not only because of their unusually high quality of photography, but because they serve as a reference library of information on the scenery of the West. Each slide is priced at forty cents. For full information, write to Mr. Graves, Box SS, Carmel, California.

# Progress in Britain's Peak District National Park

By JOHN FOSTER, Planning Officer  
Peak Park Planning Board

ON Good Friday of this year there took place at Edale in the heart of the Peak District National Park an event which is of considerable importance in the history of the national park movement in Britain. The occasion was the official inauguration of a volunteer warden service set up by the Peak Park Board to patrol the moorland of the Kinderscout massif—moorland which only a few months previously had been opened to the public for open air recreation under the first access agreements to be concluded between private landowners and any national park authority in the country. (See *Britain's Peak Park* in NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE for July-September 1953.)

That Edale should have been the chosen venue for the launching of this unique enterprise was peculiarly fitting, for few places are better known to the many thousands who find pleasure in walking the hills of the Peak District. Snugly nestled in the valley of the same name, Edale is dominated to the north by the great rocky rim of the Kinderscout Plateau, which itself forms the southernmost bastion of the Pennines. Very recently the village has achieved a new fame as the starting point of the Pennine Way, a hill walking route which will eventually run without a break along the lofty backbone of northern England right to the Scottish border.

In such a superb setting and within sight of its future territory of operations, the warden service could not but get off to a good start. The formal address of inauguration was delivered in the little square in front of the Old Nag's Head Inn, by Alderman C. F. White, Chairman of the Peak Board, and was enthusiastically received

by an audience representative of a wide variety of outdoor interests. The volunteer wardens of the day—ten in all—were then briefed as to their patrolling areas by the Board's full-time head warden, Tom Tomlinson, and after receiving from the clerk of the Board their armbands and certificates of authority, set off up the hill path from the village in bright spring sunshine to open another chapter of British national park history.

Since Easter the warden service, in fair weather and foul, has operated every weekend and on public holidays on the high moorland above Edale, on the one hand helping the inexperienced to a better understanding and enjoyment of the hills, and on the other bringing to book those few who by their deliberate acts of vandalism do so much to antagonize the countryman against all who tramp the moors and hills for pleasure.

Behind the brief and simple ceremony of Easter Friday morning lie many decades of bitter struggle, for public access to the mountains and moors of Britain is no new idea born of a post war welfare state. For over seventy years now, since the Access to Mountains (Scotland) Bill was unsuccessfully presented to Parliament in 1884, the case for access has been vigorously and continuously pressed by many responsible outdoor associations and enlightened individuals. Just reward for these endeavours came in 1949 with the

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See also *Britain's Peak Park*, by John Foster, in NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE for July-September 1953, and *The National Trust of Britain*, by Clough Williams-Ellis, in the October-December 1953 issue.



passing of the National Parks and Access to Countryside Act, which gave positive powers to all local planning authorities in England and Wales (not merely those in national parks) to allow access for the public to what is termed in the Act "open country." This means generally rough, uncultivated land, such as mountain and moor and also the cliffs, dunes and foreshore along the coastline—that is, stretches of countryside in which people walking for

recreation are not likely to harm the interests of the farmer or the countryman, provided they take reasonable care.

Shortly after the Peak District National Park was established under the National Parks Act, the Board responsible for the administration of the park opened negotiations with some ten landowners with respect to the twenty-seven square miles of the Kinderscout Plateau. This particular territory was chosen for first action out of the

**Tom Tomlinson, the Peak Park Board's head warden, is interviewed by a radio news reporter at the official inauguration of the warden service.**

John Foster





This view of the treeless, rolling moorland of Kinderscout looks down Fair Brook from the northern escarpment. This is now access country over which the public may wander at will.

R. A. Moore

200 or so square miles of potential open country within the park because of its outstanding popularity with the many walkers of Manchester and Sheffield, between which two cities it is geographically located. Negotiations were slow at the outset, for this new legislation cut right across so many of the accepted principles of British land tenure that, not unnaturally, it was treated with some suspicion. However, with the goodwill of the landowners concerned, by the end of last year two formal access

agreements—the first of their kind in the country—had been signed, opening up almost ten square miles of the plateau to the public. Early this year two further agreements covering small areas below the southern escarpment were concluded, and in a number of other cases negotiations have now reached an advanced stage.

The general effect of these access agreements is that people can enter upon the land for purposes of open air recreation and, provided they do not break or



damage walls, fences or gates in doing so, they will not be treated as trespassers. There are, however, a number of reasonable restrictions which must be observed and the right of access does not itself permit people to drive vehicles, light fires, hunt, shoot or fish on the land or to have a dog not under proper control. Naturally no rubbish or litter must be left about, nor must any wilful damage be done either to the land or to anything erected upon it. Recognizing its important responsibilities to the landowners who have cooperated in this pioneer effort, the Board is at present making bylaws to ensure that these restrictions will be observed by the public.

The full time head warden who was appointed by the Board last January was formerly the resident warden in charge of the Rowland Cote Youth Hostel in the Edale valley. He was therefore no stranger to Kinderscout when he took up his duties, and many of his old friends who used to spend their weekends with him at the hostel, now tramp the access land as volunteer wardens under his guidance.

The warden service was organized with the cooperation of the recognized rambling and outdoor associations and clubs in and around the park. Membership is drawn from the Ramblers Association, Youth Hostels Association, Clarion Club, Rover Scouts and a number of smaller climbing and rambling clubs. Early in the year, a rota of patrols covering the whole of the period from Easter until the end of September was drawn up, each association or club undertaking to supply the necessary minimum of six volunteers for as many single days or weekends as the strength of its active membership would permit. It speaks well indeed for these organizations that already over 300 of their members have come forward to undertake, without any payment whatever, the difficult task of wardening. The willingness and enthusiasm of these pioneers has been a great encouragement to the Board in its work.

Generally the wardens patrol in pairs,

for almost gentle though Kinder may look in warm sunshine, it can quickly become vast and dangerous under the all-enveloping mists which descend on occasions without warning. Most of the volunteers are tough hill walkers well acquainted with the moors and, therefore, more than equal to the task of seeking out and guiding the less experienced down to the safety of the valleys in such weather conditions. This very quality of toughness and self-reliance makes them no less suitable for the very different—and often more difficult—job of convincing the irresponsible that acts of hooliganism do not pay. In the months since Easter the red and green armband, which is the visible authority of a warden on duty, has become a familiar and reassuring sight on Kinder, welcomed by the vast majority of law-abiding walkers as a guarantee of sound advice and ready assistance.

The Old Nag's Head at Edale in which the first historic briefing of the wardens took place at Easter, is still the focal point of the warden service every weekend. However, thanks to the personal interest of the landlord, Fred Heardman, himself an experienced mountaineer, the inn has now also become the first information centre in the national park. At present the little parlour is devoted to books, maps and photographs of the Peak District, but it is hoped that soon a small permanent exhibition of geological specimens and of local plants and wildlife will be housed in it, too. The centre has already been extensively used by visitors to the park, particularly by walkers who are unfamiliar with the district and therefore only too glad to draw on Mr. Heardman's inexhaustible store of local knowledge before venturing onto the plateau.

One of the first access agreements negotiated contains an interesting condition which, recognizing the long-standing fame of Kinderscout as a grouse shooting area, provides that the moors covered by the agreement shall be closed to the public

every year on August Twelfth and each Monday thereafter during August and September. Honouring the spirit of the condition to the full, the Board early last August publicised widely through the press and radio the fact that the moors could not be walked over by the public on these agreed days, and arranged for warning notices to be posted on all the hill paths leading to the plateau. On the actual days of closing, wardens patrolled the lower hill slopes on the lookout for walkers who might accidentally stray across a drive while a shooting party was in the butts.

It is early yet to assess the full effect of these first essays in public access to the

hills of the Peak District, but sufficient positive progress has been made to encourage the Board to press forward with this important work. It must of necessity be some time before landowners generally come to realise that the new order of things is not detrimental to their interests, but rather is designed to give them a degree of protection against bad behavior by the public, which hitherto did not exist. Meanwhile, in all its negotiations for access, it is the earnest desire of the Board to reach the fullest understanding with the landowners concerned, for on what other basis could the future success of the national park be ensured?

### IN MEMORY OF AUSTIN HOBART CLARK

DR. AUSTIN H. CLARK died at his home in Washington, D. C., on October 28. Elected to the Association's Board of Trustees in 1940, and a member of our executive committee since 1944, Dr. Clark attended regularly our annual and committee meetings, giving freely of his friendly advice on the many pressing matters relating to both the national park system and the administration of the Association. His wide knowledge of natural history, and his gentle, kindly manner in dealing with others and in presenting his views will be severely missed by the Board.

Dr. Clark was born at Wellesley, Massachusetts, in 1880. Following his graduation from Harvard, in 1903, he spent two years exploring the Lesser Antilles, joining the U. S. Bureau of Fisheries as a naturalist in 1906. Two years later, he began his service with the U. S. National Museum, which service he continued to the end of his life. His most recent position there was curator of echinoderms. Dr. Clark's wide interest in animal life of all kinds led him to become one of our country's foremost biologists. An authority on the lepidoptera, his books, *Butterflies of Virginia* and *Butterflies of the District of Columbia*, published by the Smithsonian Institution, were popular.

In our October-December 1951 issue, Dr. Clark wrote an article entitled *Our Ever Changing Fauna*. A prolific writer, he authored more than 600 papers, treatises and books, many of them popular, covering a broad range of natural history subjects. Besides the National Parks Association, Dr. Clark belonged to numerous committees and organizations, a few of which were the International Committee on Radio, the American Geophysical Union, the American Association of Petroleum Geologists, the Rockefeller Foundation Conference on the Place of Science in Education, the Committee on Science Education in Virginia, the Virginia Academy of Science, the Eighth American Scientific Congress, the Navy Oceanographic Conference, the American Ornithologists' Union and the Biological Society of Washington. In 1921, he was aide-de-camp to the Prince of Monaco during the latter's visit to the United States. In 1927, he was decorated with the cross of Knight of the Order of Dannenbrog, by the King of Denmark, and in 1941, he was made president of the Washington Academy of Sciences.

Dr. Clark is survived by his wife, who, during recent years, has been librarian of the Smithsonian Institution.

### THIRD BATTLE OF DINOSAUR

THE Colorado Water Conservancy Board and other sponsors of the Upper Colorado River Storage Project have announced that vigorous efforts will be made in the 84th Congress to secure authorization of the project, including the controversial Echo Park dam in Dinosaur National Monument.

Mr. Geoffrey Will, counsel for the Board and a leading proponent at recent congressional hearings, recommended that construction of Echo Park dam be deferred until a special board, that would be appointed by the President, should have thoroughly investigated the feasibility of the alternative methods of obtaining the desired water and power benefits. Such a board, as suggested by Mr. Will, would include representatives of various federal departments, an independent civil engineer, and one person nominated by agreement among the National Parks Association, the National Wildlife Federation and the Izaak Walton League of America. In spite of Mr. Will's experience and knowledge of congressional attitudes, his reasonable proposal was rejected by the Conservancy Board. The Board voted a fund of \$39,000 to set up an office in Washington, D. C., to lobby for the project and for propaganda activities throughout the country.

Recognizing the inevitability of another strenuous battle to safeguard Dinosaur National Monument and the entire national park system from this and other projects that would flood vast areas within the system, leaders of twenty-eight national organizations met in New York, on November 17, at the invitation of the National Parks Association, to coordinate their efforts to prevent authorization of Echo Park dam. Association President Sigurd F. Olson, in addressing the meeting, pointed out that a far more important question was involved than power potential, acre-feet of evaporation, or irrigation.

"It has to do," he said, "with the preser-

vation of the finest national park system in the world. As our industrial development goes on and on, it becomes increasingly important to preserve inviolate our national parks and monuments, and to make them accessible for a people who will need them even more in the future than they do today. These parks have become so closely identified with the way of life of the American people, with the opportunities for them to know personally superlative and unchanged country, that it is inconceivable to think the day might come when we would no longer regard their preservation important.

"The conservation groups of America are agreed that Echo Park dam, or any other dam that might despoil any national park or monument, must not be considered. They are in favor of a sound program of development for the Upper Colorado. They are not opposed to any plan that will conserve the water of this great basin and make an equitable distribution of its potential to the West. But they do feel that such a program need not violate any national parks and monuments; that alternative proposals have been adequately demonstrated that will obviate any such necessity, and, incidentally, save the taxpayers many millions of dollars."

The position of the conservation and wilderness preservation organizations has been misrepresented to the people of the upper basin states as implying opposition to water development there. Actually, the issue is over how to provide water and power benefits without invading the national park system. In order to clarify their basic objective, all representatives present at the meeting subscribed to the following statement:

1. The national park system, established by law, is urgently needed, and is increasingly being enjoyed and supported by millions of people. The conservationists represent the public in-

terest in the preservation of these areas. That is what brings us together in this crisis.

2. We are opposed to any legislation that would authorize building the proposed Echo Park dam in Dinosaur National Monument in northwestern Colorado and northeastern Utah—or any other dam that would flood any portion of any national park or monument.
3. We are mindful of the extreme importance of water in the West. And we are sincerely interested in any sound upper Colorado water development that can effectively utilize the water without threatening the national park system. We point out that the necessity for Echo Park dam has never been demonstrated. It has only been asserted. We also point out that the alternatives to Echo Park dam have never been adequately studied by the Bureau of Reclamation, and have never been proved inferior.
4. We invite all citizens to join with us to make sure that areas set aside for preservation in the national park system are not needlessly invaded or despoiled.

The people of the United States, by their active expression of opinion to their repre-

sentatives in Congress, have demonstrated they are overwhelmingly in sympathy with this stand. Their insistence that Echo Park dam be rejected prevented authorization of the Upper Colorado Project by the past Congress. Congress is convening in January, with many new members. It is expected to be as strongly in favor of national park protection as preceding Congresses have been; and its members will maintain their adamant refusal to permit invasion of the national park system by such programs, if the people of every state again inform them of their views. The evidence of the past several years encourages confidence that, with this aid, victory will again be achieved.

#### Dinosaur Monument Films

Proponents of Echo Park dam have stated that the most effective weapons the national park defenders have used to block the dam's authorization were the motion pictures of Dinosaur National Monument. The National Parks Association has copies of two films, *This is Dinosaur* and *River Wilderness Trail*, which may be rented for \$5 a showing, from the Association's Washington, D. C., headquarters. Every time these films are shown, the effort to preserve the national parks and monuments is strengthened.

#### MOUNT RAINIER DECISION

(Continued from page 6)

Park Development Study Committee for their public service in arousing public interest in all-year enjoyment of the park's recreational opportunities. He said several of their recommendations were included in the National Park Service program.

The Secretary closed his letter to Gov-

ernor Langlie by saying: "Completion of the program developed by the National Park Service most certainly will be a major step toward providing for fuller all-year public enjoyment of the natural wonders of the park. Early attainment of this common goal will, I believe, be a source of great satisfaction to the people of your state and the nation as a whole."

On December 12, Frank A. Kittredge died at his home in Palo Alto, California. For many years in the National Park Service, Mr. Kittredge was known to thousands of park visitors, and he will be remembered long by those who were fortunate enough to know him well. He was first director of Region 4 of the Park Service. For a short while he was superintendent of Grand Canyon, and for ten years superintendent at Yosemite. His last years with the Service were spent in Washington as chief engineer.

# The National Parks of the Union of South Africa

By JAMES H. ORPEN, Member  
The National Parks Board of Trustees

**S**OUTH AFRICA has problems for which some solution can be found in the development of its national parks. These problems are common to other countries as well, and they have arisen through the rapid development of the towns and their environs and the consequent ever-increasing difficulty of townspeople getting into the country. The countryside is gradually getting farther and farther away, but the urge to go into the country remains—being par-

ticularly obvious on week-ends and at holiday seasons.

The increased reliability of motor-cars now enables the town dweller to reach parts of the country that were inaccessible a generation or so ago, and has perhaps increased the urge to get away from the big and rapidly growing centres of civilization. In the United States, the urge is very obvious, for in 1953, no less than 41,000,000 people visited the national park areas.

Visitors to Kruger National Park photograph zebras.

South African Tourist



# South African National Parks



Our South African population does not of course permit of such astronomical figures, but the urge is equally obvious, and our parks, like those of the states, do most certainly help to satisfy that urge.

The most famous of the United States

parks, like Yellowstone, Yosemite and Grand Canyon, are small compared with our two big parks, namely, the Kruger Park and the Kalahari (Gemsbok) Park. The glory of the United States parks lies in their matchless scenery, while that of our



parks—though they possess a strange scenic fascination of their own—lies in the wealth of animal life that they contain.

The objects of national parks can perhaps be placed under three main headings:

1. To preserve for all time the indigenous flora and fauna.
2. To provide places suitable for recreational and educational purposes and for scientific investigation.
3. To attract tourists from other countries.

These objects all dovetail into one another,

but the preservation of the local flora and fauna is all important, other objects being of secondary importance.

We must account to those who come after us how we have dealt with the precious heritage that has been given us, and which our ancestors, with sublime lack of foresight, in some measure destroyed. The establishment of national parks and reserves, where our much harassed wildlife can find sanctuary, is the best way by which we can combat the effects of the actions of the human predators of the past.

The Kruger Park is situated along the

**Dozens of zebras and wildebeest congregate around the water holes of Kruger National Park.**

South African Railways from South African Tourist



eastern border of the Transvaal, and is contiguous to Portuguese East Africa. As it is less than 300 miles from Pretoria and Johannesburg, it can easily be reached in a day from those two towns. It contains about 1200 miles of roads, the upkeep of which is a constant drain on the resources of the administration, as they suffer severely during the rainy months (November to April) and have to be put into serviceable order before the season begins at the end of May. The area of the Kruger Park is about 8000 square miles. Owing to the heat, rain and the danger of malaria, most of the park is closed during the summer months, but an area around Pretorius Kop in the south is always open, as it is higher, cooler and practically free of malaria. Pretorius Kop has accommodations for more than 500 visitors.

Five rivers cross the park and are perennial—the Oliphants in the middle being the largest river in the Transvaal. Skukuza, the main camp of the park, situated on the bank of the Sabie River, is the headquarters of the staff and has accommodation for about 800 visitors. During the dry

winter months there is a tendency for the animals to congregate at the rivers. It is the policy of the Board of Trustees that administers the national parks to provide a large number of drinking places between the rivers to prevent undue migration out of the park, thus to bring about a more even distribution of animals and discourage the presence of large prides of lions during dry periods when water is available only at the rivers, and when, owing to the concentration of animals, the toll taken by the carnivora seems excessive.

Lions of course provide the greatest attraction for most of the visitors—the sadistic ambition of many being to see a “kill.” Although there seems to be an increasing interest in other animals in their wild state, we have a long way to go in so far as educating the public in preservation is concerned. In many of the United States parks the excellent lectures given by the staff place emphasis on the local geology. In our parks the emphasis will have to be on biology, and with knowledge will come perhaps greater appreciation of animals other than lions.

A big problem is to provide for visitors at peak periods. In July (school holiday

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Mr. and Mrs. James H. Orpen represented, more than perhaps any other people, the high ideals that have stimulated wildlife protection in Africa. Their “farm,” as ranches are called in South Africa, lay adjacent to Kruger National Park, in which they took deep interest. Together they surveyed a line of more than two hundred miles of rugged country along the western boundary of the park, and, when they found some of the farms outside the park were vital to the existence of the animals, and being used for slaughter of wildlife, they purchased 60,611 acres for £100,000, donating them to the park. This led others to contribute lands to Kruger National Park and, by so doing, to save thousands of animals. Their own farm supported the last remaining white-tailed gnus.

Mr. Orpen served on the National Parks Board of Trustees of South Africa (which corresponds to the United States National Park Service, but includes civilian representation), and was a prominent member of the Wild Life Society of South Africa. He aroused the interest of the Society in preserving the rare mountain zebra, which led to the establishment of the Mountain

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Zebra National Park. It was at his recommendation that the habitat of the nearly extinct Addo elephant was fenced as a reserve.

In 1949, Mr. and Mrs. Orpen came to the United States to attend the International Technical Conference on the Protection of Nature, and to visit the American national parks. The National Parks Association was privileged to help them plan their trip. On his return to Africa, Mr. Orpen wrote glowingly about the natural beauty he had seen—and less than enthusiastically about American billboards.

Last May, Mr. and Mrs. Orpen died within a few days of each other, a few short weeks after sending this article to your editor. Even though he knew his illness was fatal, Mr. Orpen's interest in nature never waned. He wrote the Association for illustrated books about the flowers whose beauty had so impressed him while he was here, and his last days were spent renewing his memories of a life full of the wonder of the outdoors.—*Editor*.



time) the Kruger Park is uncomfortably crowded, whereas for the rest of the season there is plenty of room. The best time to visit the park is therefore during the months of June, August and September. It is exceedingly unlikely that large modern hotels will ever be permitted inside the park, for such would destroy the atmosphere of "unspoilt Africa," which it is hoped to preserve. At least a fortnight should be spent in the park to appreciate it properly. Speed should be kept as low as possible, in some cases as low as ten or fifteen miles an hour. The main law of the park, "keep to the road and stay in your car" should be strictly observed. The amenities provided are not luxurious, but meet the needs of most people. Many like to cook for themselves at the outdoor fireplaces.

The Kalahari Park is situated on the borders of the Union and South West Africa, and is part of the Kalahari Desert, but though it has little water, it hardly deserves the name of "desert," for there is enough vegetation to keep in good condition many thousands of gemsbok (oryx) and springbok and smaller numbers of other species. It is, however, difficult to reach, being about 600 miles from Johannesburg, for the most part over rather indifferent roads, and is therefore visited only by those who go there on duty.

A number of windmills have been erected, and these, plus the "tsama" melon seem to meet the needs of the animals. This melon, which at times occurs in enormous numbers, contains a lot of water and was the mainstay of the bushman in the waterless wastes that he favoured. The real bushmen are almost extinct, but a small colony of them has been given a home in the Kalahari Park, where they are allowed to live in their own way and are provided with tobacco and rations by the authorities. In early days, they were regarded as vermin and shot on sight.

In the Kalahari Park, one is obliged to travel along the beds of the Aub and Nossop rivers, for the sandy dunes prevent

any vehicular traffic. It is very rarely that these rivers "come down," perhaps only once in a hundred years or so, but as their banks are hundreds of yards apart, they must at some distant period have carried down large quantities of water to the Orange River, and thence to the Atlantic Ocean.

The other South African parks are for the purpose of protecting species that are threatened with extinction. Near Port Elizabeth is the Addo Elephant Park. The Addo elephants now number only twenty-one, and Addo is the only spot in the world where wild elephants are to be seen within forty miles of a large sea-port. Numbers of passengers travelling on mail ships visit the park. This makes a welcome break after a long sea voyage. Near Cradock there is the Mountain Zebra Park, and near Cape Agulhas (the southernmost point of the continent) is the Bontebok Park. The bontebok is a close relation of the common blesbok of the high veld. It was very nearly shot out a few years ago, but is now thriving in this small park, which is used as a kind of nursery. At intervals of about three years, several are caught and given to selected farmers. In one case seven given to a farmer have now increased to over sixty, so that the survival of the bontebok seems assured. This is most heartening, for our efforts to correct the results of the destructive tastes of the South African pioneers seem to be bearing fruit.

The example of the Union of South Africa in establishing national parks is being followed in the Rhodesias, in the central African colonies, in Belgian Congo and in Portuguese East Africa, so that the traveller of the future will have a wide choice of parks to visit in which he will be able to see and study in their natural surroundings all the wild animals with which Africa has been so singularly blessed, and which would speedily vanish before the hostility that is brought about by the advance of civilization if such parks did not exist.

# Ozzie Lives Here Now

By DONALD M. BLACK, Ranger  
Grand Canyon National Park

THE arrival of a new baby started all of Ozzie's troubles. Until then, he had been the center of attention. Even when he had a heart attack and nearly died, it was the mister of the household who made a concoction of whiskey and milk that brought Ozzie out of his near-death venture. To this day he has not decided whether it was the reviving powers of whiskey, or his violent objection to liquids that "brought him around," for Ozzie is a teetotaler. Never in his whole life has he touched a drop of water. In fact, to once and for all establish his impassioned disdain of the stuff, his first, final and only reaction to water was to kick dirt into it.

Getting back to his downfall, when the stork brought the baby girl, there just was not enough attention left over for Ozzie. Although he was a full-grown, spotted ground squirrel, he was tiny, and it was necessary for him to find a new home if he were to get the attention such a rare little animal obviously deserved. We consented to adopt him. His cage, complete with bed, sand pan and treadmill was moved to our house and put on the kitchen floor.

This new location gave him a different perspective on humans. Whereas he had been on a table top in his previous home, and his eye level caught a person at about the waist line, he now had a worm's eye view of us—from the shoes up. We wondered if he noticed the difference, and felt that surely, he did.

For several days he was completely occupied with remaining in hiding in his bulwark of safety—his bed of cotton and cloth scraps. Most of his meals were taken during the night when no one was around. Eventually he became sufficiently adjusted to his new environment to begin playing in the treadmill during the day. Finally, when his courage permitted him to take pieces of vegetable from our hands, we began leaving the cage lid open. This started a new era in Ozzie's life.

Now, most usually at midday lunch, we often hear a soft plop, which is Ozzie jumping down off the cage from its twelve-inch height. He mosies over to the kitchen table expecting tidbits which he may eat, only smell, or accept merely to throw down. Invariably he takes at least one look and sniff at his contorted reflection in the

Donald M. Black



Ozzie, a spotted ground squirrel of the Grand Canyon country, made a ranger's home a lively place.

chrome leg of the kitchen table. Then importantly he inspects what each of us holds down to him before making his choice, with which he scurries under the refrigerator to hurriedly eat the crumb. We have wondered how long it will be before his curiosity leads him to investigate the gas flame under the refrigerator. This probably would result in a squeal (though we have never heard his vocal accomplishments), singed whiskers, and a very bushed-up tail—a trait that indicates anger or fear.

Being clean, he is permitted, in this extra dividend of freedom, to make exploratory treks around the various rooms of the house. Through his investigations in the bedroom or under the divan, he keeps alert for any alarming, though slight, sound, which would send him scurrying back to his cage. The ringing of the telephone, which is right above his cage, is one thing that he seems not to notice if he is safe at home, but which, if he is out, causes him to become frantic.

Sometimes his homing speed is so great that he slides around the corner, all four feet scratching for traction. At times he ventures onto the enclosed back porch to "case the joint," but does not stay long.

Although considered old, he is not beyond learning new tricks. To him now, the word "here" means there is something available that might prove to be good eating. When attentiveness seems to be running low, a spin in his treadmill usually attracts the desired attention and an offer of some delicacy. Sometimes it is difficult to attract attention and then he thinks it is necessary to make several runs in the wheel and dash up to the edge of the cage to check on the possibility of someone's having taken the hint that he is out of lettuce or in the mood for a leaf from the ice box. The latter is "real eatin'"—the best this side of the Coconino Basin from where he originally came.

Mother squirrel had apparently abandoned him when he was only a few days old, and at far too young an age he was

out in search of sustenance. This made it a simple matter for his original owner to catch, tame, and save him from a horrible fate. For an owl or hawk he would have been a tender, juicy morsel.

His baby days, then, were passed in lush surroundings for a ground squirrel—soft, warm bed, and frequent feedings of warm milk from a medicine dropper. But the dropper days are long ago and hardly worth remembering; and now the ice box days are here! There just seems not to be enough of this, ever. It is like chocolate cake to boys.

Three years to a spotted ground squirrel would be about equal to seventy-five to a person, and Ozzie's senility is evident. Although he is friendly as long as he has his way, he does not hesitate to nip a finger if all does not go well. In fact he bites now and then just to show who is boss. Besides, what is the use in getting old if you can not be a little grouchy when the mood hits.

One of Ozzie's favorite treats is a pan of fresh sand. This always necessitates, by way of celebration, a dust bath and some extra rooting and scratching. His former owner flipped dirt in his face when Ozzie flipped it with his nose (apparently a challenge to fight in his original habitat). This would make him angry and he would charge, with all intentions of fighting.

In keeping with his age, he is not much impressed with mirrors. Because of his apparent interest in the chrome table leg, we placed a mirror against his cage. He looked at it, yes, and repeatedly, but we could not decide whether he just was not impressed, or if he even saw his reflection.

During these years, he has traveled thousands of miles in cars, and probably a hundred in his treadmill. His food consists mostly of vegetables, seeds, and an occasional small bit of meat. His antics of begging for food, eating it like a small boy does a watermelon, and his disgusted manner when he is urged to take a scrap he does not want, all make us glad that Ozzie lives here now.

## HAWK MOUNTAIN'S TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY

**H**AWK MOUNTAIN SANCTUARY, at Dreherstown, Pennsylvania, celebrated its twentieth anniversary on October 31 with the dedication of its new assembly building. Richard H. Pough and Henry H. Collins were honored guests, for they were the discoverers of the horrifying slaughter of hawks occurring every autumn at this point on the Kittatinny Ridge. Thousands of raptors cross this mountain, which is a junction on their flyways, and for years untold thousands had been shot ruthlessly, most of them to die lingeringly in the woods.

Appalled, the two ornithologists appealed to Mrs. Rosalie Edge, noted New York conservationist, to take action to stop this destruction of one of the most beautiful and valuable forms of wildlife. In 1934, Mrs. Edge secured options on the mountain, raised funds to purchase it, and incorporated Hawk Mountain Sanctuary Association to ensure its permanent protec-

tion. Under the wise and courageous care of Dr. and Mrs. Maurice Broun, this refuge has become world-famous for its spectacular exhibit of magnificent birds flying at close range before fascinated students perched on its promontories.

Members of the Hawk Mountain Sanctuary Association, renowned ornithologists and conservation leaders gathered to spend the morning watching red-tails, red-shoulders and goshawks fly over the mountain, and then met in the new building to express their deep appreciation to Mrs. Edge and her associates for their valiant work in behalf of the birds. They described Hawk Mountain as the most significant privately founded and supported refuge in the country, not only because it has influenced improved legislation in many states, but even more importantly for the impact of Dr. Broun's interpretive program on the attitude of former hawk-shooters, local farmers, and youth groups that camp

The new assembly building contains a large lecture hall and a warden's residence.

Fred M. Packard





Fred M. Packard

Visitors climb to the lookout to watch the aerial parade of hawks and eagles on their southward migration.

by hundreds at the sanctuary. Letters of felicitation were received from all over the nation, and from abroad.

Colonel Nicholas Biddle, vice-president of the Pennsylvania Game Commission, described the state law that protects all hawks, except Cooper's, sharp-shin and goshawk, and announced that the bounty on the goshawk has been repealed. Mr. M. Albert Linton, president of the Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences, warned that in spite of gratifying success achieved by the sanctuary, slaughter of hawks continues as actively as ever at other places along the Kittatiny Ridge. He urged an intensive public education campaign to stop this disgrace, followed by improved legislation. Your Executive Secretary Fred M. Packard commented that he felt the first step was to tighten the law, and use that as a basis for public enlightenment, as well as enforcement. If Pennsylvania

were to protect all hawks, except individual ones when actually seen committing depredations on domestic fowl, there could be no legal loophole to allow continuation of the shooting stands or other killing by men who cannot tell one hawk from another, and who escape punishment by asserting their victims are all unprotected species. The discussion was a salutary reminder that no nature protection organization can rest on laurels of past accomplishments.

Hawk Mountain Sanctuary is easily accessible and is open all year. The hawk flights occur chiefly between September and late November, but there are birds, plants and geology to be studied at any season.

—Fred M. Packard.

Other articles on Hawk Mountain Sanctuary have been *Hawk Slaughter*, by J. Charles Tracy, in *National Parks Magazine* for July-September 1943, and *The Epic of Hawk Mountain*, by Rosalie Edge, in the July-September 1950 issue.

## ASSOCIATION AWARDS REPRESENTATIVE SAYLOR

**S**IGURD F. OLSON conferred the National Parks Association Award on Representative John P. Saylor, of Pennsylvania, "for distinguished services to the national parks and monuments of the United States and to the people they serve and inspire" at a luncheon at Johnstown, Pennsylvania, on October 14. "When I think of Representative Saylor and all he has done," Mr. Olson said, "when I think of all who have been concerned with the preservation of the natural scene, their battles and frustrations, the pitting of their minds and hearts against the organized

efforts of those who would misuse the land, I am convinced that he, like the rest, has the powerful conviction and motivation of a dream that is clear enough so there is no doubting. The dream of saving part of primitive America has possessed us, has so taken hold of our minds and imaginations that there can never be any question as to the worthwhileness of our goal."

Addressing leaders of sixteen national organizations and representatives of local civic groups, many of whom had flown to Johnstown to honor Representative Saylor, Mr. Olson pointed out that "the security of

*Mr. Sigurd F. Olson, president of the National Parks Association, left, presents to Representative John P. Saylor of Pennsylvania, the Association's plaque, while Mrs. Saylor, mother of the Congressman, shows the pride she justly feels.*

Thomas H. Langlois





our country depends on the care and vigilance our Congress exercises to enact only those laws that are in the interest of the nation as a whole. It is the duty of a member of Congress to uphold both the national welfare and that of his constituents—which, actually, are two aspects of the same thing. Representative Saylor clearly recognizes that what is best for the nation is also best for his people. He has established himself as one of the most thoroughly informed, honest, and deep-thinking conservationists in Congress."

During the 83rd Congress, Mr. Saylor vigorously opposed inclusion of Echo Park dam, proposed to be built in Dinosaur National Monument, as part of the Upper Colorado River Storage Project, and insisted that any project that involves billions of the peoples' dollars be soundly conceived and properly planned. He worked for adequate appropriations for the National Park Service, the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the U. S. Forest Service, and has consistently fought for sound soil and forestry practices and positive preservation of national parks and wilderness areas. "He is one who knows the dream," Mr.

Olson said, "and who has the courage, vision, knowledge, and foresight to recognize the deep significance of the issues he has fought for."

The National Parks Association Award was established by the Board of Trustees at its annual meeting, in 1954, to be conferred from time to time as occasion warrants, on individuals who have made extraordinary contributions to the welfare of the national parks and monuments. Representative Saylor is the first recipient. He was made an honorary life member of the Association, and was given an autographed copy of Devereux Butcher's *Exploring Our National Parks and Monuments*, with an inscribed plaque attesting his services in behalf of his country's national park system.

The occasion was particularly pleasant because it coincided with the eightieth birthday of Mrs. Tillman K. Saylor, Sr., Representative Saylor's mother, who received a rising ovation. After luncheon, at the Sunnehanna Country Club, with its vista of the brilliant autumn hills of Pennsylvania, the guests stayed to see films of Dinosaur National Monument.

## A. F. A. AWARDS OLAUS J. MURIE

Olaus J. Murie, a member of your Association's Board of Trustees, and president of The Wilderness Society, was presented an American Forestry Association 1954 annual award "in recognition of outstanding service in the conservation of American resources of soil, water and forests."

Because Dr. Murie was recovering from illness in a Denver hospital and was unable to attend the 79th annual meeting of The American Forestry Association, held in Portland, Oregon, last autumn, Mr. Robert N. Hoskins, chairman of the awards committee, accompanied by the U. S. Forest Service's Assistant Regional Forester Arthur Nelson, went to the hospital to make the award in person.

*American Forests*, magazine of The American Forestry Association, reported in its October, 1954, issue: "Dr. Murie, who was nominated by seventy leaders in all phases of resources activity ranging from Supreme Court justices to writers and educators, was described by Mr. Hoskins as 'one of the most distinguished biologists since Aldo Leopold—a man who offers solid assurance that all is well in the world of winding wilderness trails and limpid streams' and the man 'you would most like to take home to introduce to your children.' The nation's outstanding authority on elk, Dr. Murie has long been active in the work of The American Forestry Association, Izaak Walton League, the Quetico-Superior Committee and numerous other groups."

# More Rangers for the High Country

By PHYLLIS BROYLES

Drawings by the Author

**I**N August of 1950, I accompanied my husband, Rod, on a routine back-country patrol in Mather District of Yosemite National Park. The purpose of the patrol was twofold: to contact hikers and campers, and to help spread the word among frequenters of the back-country that rangers were being seen on several points of the boundary. Hunting season in the adjacent Stanislaus National Forest was only a few weeks off.

The first day we traversed the dusty, hot Moraine Ridge, up Jack Main Canyon, to Wilmer Lake, set in a deep cup of granite. After hot cakes in the morning, we took a side trip to Tilden Lake. It was threatening that day, and the steely expanse of Tilden reflected the cold look of the sky.

We traversed the dusty, hot Moraine Ridge up Jack Main Canyon, to Wilmer Lake.



At the lake's upper end there were strangely-shaped peaks, looking rosy in contrast to the water. One of these was smoothly rounded almost to its top, where it broke into a serrated ridge resembling the back of a prehistoric lizard. We decided, in spite of the topographic map, which appears to be inaccurate here, that this peak was the one called Saurian Crest.

After our second night at Wilmer, we rode up the eight-mile-long Grace Meadow to Dorothy Lake, and on to Bond Pass. At this altitude (Bond Pass is nearly 10,000 feet above sea level, Dorothy Lake only a little lower) there were snowfields on the peaks, and the trail was lined with flowers that had long since disappeared at lower altitudes—mariposa lilies, harlequin lupine and a cinquefoil. At Bond Pass we emerged into the Stanislaus National Forest to follow the only traveled trail to Twin Lakes, just inside the park boundary. As we left the park and wound down a Yosemite-like valley in the forest, the scenery changed; we passed successively through a narrow neck of cliffs, a swampy meadow and a shadowy deciduous forest. Then there came a steep climb to Twin Lakes, where we found green grass and azaleas surrounding water full of trout. Huckleberry Lake was our destination for that day. Here we had an amusing evening.

We had dawdled along, admiring the lake and finding slabs of glacial polish on its rim, and had sat for a long time looking at a most perfectly rounded granite dome. Finally we reached the patrol cabin at the far end of the lake, where we planned to stay. There was no holding pasture, so when we had relieved the mule of her pack and unsaddled the horses, we hobbled one horse, belled the other, and turned them





*Tilden Lake*

We took a side trip to Tilden Lake, where the strange form of Saurian Crest rose high above the lake's opposite shore.

out to the thick grass. The stream that wandered by the cabin was slow and warm enough for a bath. . . . When at last we were ready to prepare dinner, it was quite dark, and the cabin looked gloomy. Rod tried to light our one lantern, while I lighted the stove. But the lantern would not respond to any kind of treatment—neither the most radical reserved for balky lanterns, nor the severe verbal kind that often goes with it. I am not sure to this day what went into the pans I heated on the stove. We turned in early that night, perforce. It was just as well, for we had our longest day ahead, retracing our route to Wilmer Lake. The last day brought us home to Hetch Hetchy.

Every trail we traveled on the trip had been familiar to Rod, but to me, all were new, and my lasting impression—one that will haunt me until the day we take our

children into that high country—was of vastness, height and utter aloneness. At the time, those lakes lying just under the sky; those meadows, hosts to winds unknown to low country; and those peaks surely never scaled by men, were mine.

Yet even at the moment, I was aware of the contradiction of that feeling. Every campsite we inspected either was being used or had just been used by hikers and fishermen. The trailside register at Bond Pass, where only a very few of Yosemite's high country visitors enter the park, was so full of names that even we were surprised. Still, these facts failed to spoil the illusion that we were alone in the high country. This is a paradox born of some quality of the wilderness, which I cannot analyze, but I know its effect. A traveler may never see or talk to anyone, but he knows others are there. As do the animals,

they present no threat to his enjoyment, and he is tolerant, even pleased, to have them there.

This very sense of vastness and aloneness is bringing more and more people into the remote country. Some carry back-packs. Some lead a donkey piled with gear, along the trails. Some ride horseback, with wranglers from the park concessioner pack stations, or from pack stations in the national forests, to care for their stock and lead their supply mules. No matter how they travel, they come back next year, and so do their friends, whom they have told about the high country. In fact, the trails never before have known so much travel.

Unfortunately, most of the seekers of wilderness solitude never see a ranger. As everyone knows, National Park Service appropriations for protection and management are far below the need, and the efforts of the limited ranger forces in most parks are required in the more heavily used areas, such as Yosemite Valley. Meanwhile, the back-country is suffering from lack of patrol and maintenance. Some of the things my husband has found in his four summers of outpost assignments are campsites piled high with cans and rubbish; a young couple, with two dogs and three guns, who didn't realize that they were in the park; countless parties who in several years of coming to the back-country, had never met a ranger before; fishing in closed waters; poaching; pastures overgrazed by too great a concentration of pack-stock; trails that are impassible because of fallen trees, and vandalism of patrol cabins. On one occasion an Austrian, hiking all the trails he had time for on limited leave, stopped by our station and registered a complaint: He had found a deserted campsite with the fire still burning, and had put it out. He was quite excited about it, as well he should have been; for this was the end of August, during the worst of the fire season. Our two patrolling rangers could not possibly cover the two hundred miles of trail in Mather District often enough to discover and cor-

rect these conditions, even had they not been busy.

These are merely the more obvious problems that result from insufficient personnel in the park's back-country. But, you might ask, would not more rangers produce an undesirable feeling of too much "policing"? I do not believe it would. When my husband goes on patrol, he wears what we call "back-country uniform": saddle-worn blue jeans, a uniform shirt with no tie, and a park ranger hat. The only things to remind the visitor that he is an official are his hat, badge and the USNPS collar ornaments. This uniform is standard for patrols. Rod invariably approaches those he meets in an attitude of helpfulness and of interest in their welfare and happiness. A number of times, he has brought injured people to where they could get medical help. Only very rarely has he had to perform actual police duty.

Perhaps it is not as important to contact the high country visitor as to contact the automobilists. But I think it is. I am convinced that many hikers need to learn park rules, as well as safer hiking practices; and many campers need to learn safer, cleaner, and more considerate camp techniques. I think that even those who are already well indoctrinated in these practices would like answers to questions that arise as they go along. My husband accompanied a large Sierra Club party in 1950, and he found plenty of work for a ranger to do, not the least of which was to establish relations—contact between Park Service and visitors. Even the Sierra Clubbers had questions to ask about Yosemite!

After all, the most important feature of the "wilderness parks" is in their very quality of wilderness. I suspect that the people who know that fact, and who take advantage of it, get much more out of coming to the parks than those who do not. They, with the wilderness they admire, deserve much more attention, protection, and help than the National Park Service can possibly give them now.

# THE 1954 FOREST FIRE RECORD

By L. F. COOK, Chief Forester  
National Park Service

**FIRE DANGER CONDITIONS** this year have been a welcome contrast to the abnormally severe conditions which prevailed over many sections during the past three years. It has been, in fact, a relatively easy year in most parts of the country with the comparatively small total of 9800 acres burned in Park Service areas.

In the northern Rocky Mountain and Pacific Northwest states the summer was cool and moist. The severe drought of the past several years continued in the Southwest and California during the early months, but well-scattered precipitation later alleviated much of the danger and has partially restored soil moisture. A period of high fire danger occurred in the Southeastern areas from June through September, which is normally a period of low danger in that region. It was relieved before the usual fall fire season occurred.

Forest fire occurrence is usually directly related to the severity of local prevailing fuel, moisture and weather conditions. The National Park Service record for the first ten months of 1954 reflects the easier conditions. In 1953, more lightning fires were recorded than in any previous year since records had been kept for park fires, but in 1954, there have been fewer than during any of the past twenty years except 1948. Similarly, only during four of the previous twenty years have fewer man-caused fires been reported by park areas (1944, 1945, 1950 and 1951—all war years). More than the usual number of fires entered park areas from the outside, and a considerable number of additional fires were prevented from entering, primarily by Service action. The total number of fires, both lightning and man-caused, which burned within the boundaries of areas protected by the National Park Serv-

ice, in 1954, was fewer than during any of the past twenty years, except 1944 and 1948.

The marked reduction in the number of man-caused fires, despite an all-time record number of people using the parks, is significant. It continues a steady annual trend of reduction in preventable fires in the face of ever-increasing numbers of visitors. The possibilities of fires starting from carelessness or ignorance was, of course, reduced by the lowered fire hazard conditions, but that alone cannot account for all of the reduction. Visitors to all areas protected by the National Park Service probably will total about 48,000,000 for the 1954 calendar year, yet fewer than 200 man-caused fires have been reported as starting inside park boundaries. The only specific causes, among the eight standard causes, to show an increase over the past few years are camper and miscellaneous. Both of these obviously resulted from overcrowded or inadequate facilities and limited staffs to protect and maintain the areas. The number of smoker-caused fires showed a particularly encouraging reduction. Fire prevention campaigns directed at specific causes and emphasis on personal attention seem now to be bearing fruit.

During the year, only three fires burned more than 1000 acres each, but they account for eighty-five percent of the 9800-acre total inside the national parks and monuments. Approximately 4000 acres of forest, 2760 acres of brush and 2975 acres of grass were burned. Everglades National Park had a lightning fire which destroyed 2500 acres of forest and grass. Saguaro National Monument had a lightning fire in its high, inaccessible mountain section, which burned 4220 acres of forest and brush land; and Badlands National Monu-

ment had a 1600-acre grass fire caused by a smoker.

For a number of years the protection staffs of the National Park Service have met with other federal and state agencies to discuss plans and organization to improve mutual assistance in combating fires. These joint discussions are proving valuable in creating interagency understanding of problems and conditions.

Increasing emphasis has been placed on a broader understanding of and, to some degree, greater uniformity in, the patterns of forest fires suppression organizations among the various protection agencies. Interchange of personnel, equipment, and other fire control resources on large fire emergencies is increasing as a result of such mutual-aid effort. This progressive cooperation is producing lasting, as well as current, benefits to all agencies participating in the difficult job of protecting

the nation's forests from fire.

One of the mutual-aid activities that is paying dividends is the organization, training, and dispatching of the Southwestern Indian fire fighters. At the peak of the Turkey Creek Fire in Saguaro National Monument, there were 205 Indians from the Hopi, Jemez, Mescalero Apache, San Carlos Apache, Santo Domingo and Zuni tribes, all working efficiently under the direction of thirty Park Service overhead recruited from a large number of areas. The fire camp was supplied largely by dropping food supplies and equipment from airplanes. No fire-line accidents were reported. Several other agencies participated in the organization and dispatching of men, supplying of equipment and planes, and in many other ways. The National Park Service furnished assistance to other agencies in the handling of some of their larger fires.

## THE READER'S DIGEST LENDS A HELPING HAND

An article entitled *The Shocking Truth About Our National Parks*, by Charles Stevenson, appears in the January, 1955, issue of *The Reader's Digest*. It brings to attention many of the pressing problems and dangers with which the national parks and monuments are confronted—problems well known to the members of our Association. It is indeed gratifying to realize that, through this article, millions of people are being made aware of the sad plight of our wonderful national park system.

Stevenson discusses the shortage of Park Service personnel in relation to the increase of visitors during recent years; deteriorating facilities; wide-spread vandalism of natural features; the Park Service's management of recreational areas at artificial lakes, which puts the Service "into big-time recreation enterprises;" and specific cases of a "carnival atmosphere" at such locations as Yosemite Valley and parts of Yellowstone. Stevenson also discusses the tendency to turn the parks into playgrounds offering sports, entertainment and excitement that are already adequately available at resorts. With regard to this, he says, "Perhaps the greatest perversion of the original national parks intention lies in the tawdry commercialization of these oases of natural grandeur. The prize exhibit is in Yosemite Valley, California." And he adds, "Today this preserve has evolved into the resort empire of a private concessioner, the Yosemite Park and Curry Company." Unfortunately Mr. Stevenson does not tell his readers what they can do to help remedy these threats to the parks.

We are grateful to Mr. Stevenson and *The Reader's Digest* for giving us this help in enlightening the people.

Reprints of the article are available at five cents a copy for any quantity, by writing to your Association and enclosing the amount necessary.

## NATIONAL WATERSHED CONGRESS

*The National Watershed Congress, held in Washington, D. C., on October 6 and 7, reflected the impetus given the idea of protecting small upstream watersheds for flood control, soil conservation and for other reasons, by the Hope-Aiken Act of the 83rd Congress. We have asked Mr. Bernard Frank of the U. S. Forest Service, who also is a member of the council of the Wilderness Society, to give us his impressions of the two-day conference, and he has very kindly complied in the following:*

THE National Watershed Congress was the first of its kind to be held in the United States. Sponsored by twenty-five organizations having a wide variety of interests, it brought together some 350 people representing many of the small watershed associations now operating around the country. Representatives of various national conservation groups also attended; but no federal or state agencies as such were invited to serve as representatives. However, attendance did include a number of individuals employed by the major water resource development bureaus.

The meeting of the Congress was stimulated by a number of factors: the sobering effect of serious water shortages, floods and siltation; a desire to speed up watershed improvement programs now under way or being initiated on farms and ranches throughout the country; and a strong interest in the development of well-rounded land and water resource programs, with emphasis on more work on the lands and watercourses of the smaller upstream drainages, and less on big engineering works on the major rivers. Perhaps the most compelling incentive was the desire to take full advantage of the opportunity afforded by the enactment of Public Law 566, the watershed protection and flood prevention Act of August 4, 1954, which authorizes federal assistance to cooperative, locally-sponsored projects on watersheds not larger than 250,000 acres.

The Congress specifically refrained from passing resolutions or obtaining consensus by vote on any of the subjects taken up.

Instead, its organizers established ten committees to consider and bring before the members for comment, their reports on the topics assigned to them.

These topics were: 1. Elements of a sound national land and water policy; 2. Existing and needed federal legislation; 3. Existing and needed state legislation for the creation of watershed districts; 4. Development of adequate state agencies; 5. Federal appropriations; 6. Federal, state and local cost-sharing in watershed development and protection; 7. Federal inter-agency coordination; 8. Local administrative techniques; 9. Public understanding; and 10. Organization of small watershed associations.

Each committee prepared and distributed preliminary statements in advance, to provide opportunities for comment by representatives of participating organizations. Final statements were presented and discussed at the conference. Comments were favorable, on the whole, although some disagreements were expressed on particular items, as for example, the lack of emphasis on western public land watersheds, on the relative effectiveness of small dams in controlling the larger floods, and on the criteria for cost-sharing by local units and individuals in watershed projects.

The primary concern of the Congress—both the committees and the membership—was with the small, agriculturally developed watersheds that are mainly in private ownership. In this respect, it dovetailed with the intent of Public Law 566 and the soil conservation district program generally. This dominant concern, as indicated by the

nature and scope of the ten committee reports, seems surprising in view of the representation of so many public land and forestry conscious organizations. Questions were raised from the floor on the inadequate attention given by the committee to public lands, but the basic emphasis on agriculture (and related urban) watersheds was already too well jelled to permit thorough consideration of any non-agricultural aspects.

Perhaps it was just as well that the question of watershed improvement on public lands and extensive forest areas did not come up too sharply before this Congress. The two-day discussion was much too short to permit adequate deliberation even within the relatively limited scope of the ten major topics. Large areas of the western public lands—national parks, national forests, holdings of the Bureau of Land Management, etc.—are too remote from settlements and from the daily interests of most citizens to arouse the concern of farmers and urbanites as do the smaller watersheds close to home.

The nature, location and broad public services of large federal lands do not readily lend themselves to intensive planning as do the small watersheds in the settled parts of the country. Questions of water rights, land use conflicts, and other weighty matters add to the complexities of the problem; and the fact that Public Law 566 does not provide for direct federal sponsorship and participation in the protection of small watersheds, except in a "service" capacity, compounds the obstacles to the stimulation of interest in watershed programs for large public holdings.

Nationwide conservation groups like the National Parks Association, the Wilderness Society and the Izaak Walton League, should by all means continue their interest and participation in the small rural watershed program and similar conservation endeavors. But these organizations, rather than those concerned with small local watersheds, will need to take the lead in developing and arousing widespread support for

effective watershed programs on the public lands. The national groups are also more directly concerned with the preservation of wilderness, scenery and other less material resources than are the local farm groups. Furthermore, they possess the viewpoints, information and skills to study the complex problems that face us in considering how far to go, or how far not to go, in advocating watershed measures on these large areas.

Thus far, the major energies of many national groups have been consumed in fighting off attempts by certain federal agencies, as well as some non-federal ones, to exploit the scenic recreational, wildlife, and related resources for highly materialistic purposes. Conservationists might now seriously consider concentrating more on studying the watershed improvement, protection and management needs of the public wild lands, including the possibilities of strengthening legislation for their care.

One approach may be to work within the framework of the National Watershed Congress (assuming that it achieves its announced purpose of becoming a continuing organization). This possibility might be achieved by creation of a special public lands committee of that Congress. Such a committee would bring together the best possible information on the status and value of these lands, and their needs for improvement, protection and management. It might explore the opportunities for cooperative relations with state and local governments and citizen groups, and report its findings to the 1955 meeting of the Watershed Congress. In view of their large responsibilities on the public lands, official representatives of federal and other public agencies might well be invited to participate in discussions on this general topic. I believe such an effort, guided by the national groups, would better focus attention on these lands.

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Proceedings of the National Watershed Congress will be distributed without charge to all registrants, and they may be obtained by others at \$1 a copy, by writing to the National Watershed Congress, 1320 18th Street, N. W., Washington 5, D. C.



## THE EDITOR'S BOOKSHELF

ICEBOUND SUMMER, by Sally Carrighar. Published by Alfred A. Knopf, New York, 1953. Illustrated. 262 pages. Price \$3.95.

Sally Carrighar has risen as one of America's most perceptive naturalists who shows also an extraordinary felicity in presenting animal behavior in dramatic but simple terms. She has a talent for interpreting the reasons animals behave as they do, especially the minute details overlooked by casual observers. Her books are based almost entirely on her own studies, and have rare authenticity.

Two years ago, Miss Carrighar went to Alaska on a Guggenheim grant, and *Icebound Summer* is an interpretation of what she saw during a year at Unalakleet, on Norton Sound. Few other books have given so clear an understanding of the wildlife paradise of Alaska. It is not dry natural history. Whether describing the unwilling aid polar bears give to foxes seeking food on the winter icepack or the maternal care with which the beluga whale prepares its cub for independent life, she makes each an individual personality, but without humanizing. She weaves the interrelationships among creatures of the wild, chains of interdependence seldom recognized, such as the complex tapestry of the heedless run of lemmings to the sea, the resultant change in the behavior of predatory jaegers, and the effects of that shift on the success of a colony of Arctic terns, with the final impact of the activities of that other native species, the Eskimo.

Miss Carrighar has contributed so much to appreciation of nature and of wildlife under protection in our national parks that it may not be amiss here to remind our members that each of her books is a treasure worth delving into. *One Day on Beetle Rock* is a brilliant, sensitive account of the birds and mammals, large and small,

that live near an outcrop in Yosemite National Park. *One Day on Teton Marsh* is a narrative of the complex relationships among species living in and around a single beaver pond in Grand Teton National Park, and the dynamic changes in their lives caused by the falling of one tree at the edge of the pond. *Icebound Summer* sustains the high quality of its predecessors; some believe it the best of the three. All are so fascinating that your reviewer makes no choice—all are wonderful.—F.M.P.

A FIELD GUIDE TO THE BIRDS OF BRITAIN AND EUROPE, by Roger Tory Peterson, Guy Mountfort and P. A. D. Hollom. Published by Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston, 1954. Color and black and white illustrations. 318 pages. Maps. Index. Price \$5.

One day, a year or so ago, Roger Tory Peterson and Guy Mountfort, Secretary of the British Ornithologists' Union, sat together on the crags of Hawk Mountain, in Pennsylvania, discussing problems of bird identification in Europe. Mountfort bewailed the lack of a compact, useful field guide to European birds equivalent to the famous books his colleague had prepared for America. With characteristic modesty, Peterson said he had long toyed with the idea of writing and illustrating such a guide, but did not feel entirely qualified to do it. "Let's do it together," was the response. Now issued in several editions, with distributional maps by Mr. Hollom, this masterly work fills a serious gap in ornithological literature.

It is almost superfluous to comment to American readers about the usefulness of a guide based on the Peterson techniques of bird identification, or about the stimulus it encourages to appreciate the world of nature. The 600 color illustrations and the 500 pattern studies are equal in quality to those in the American guides, and have



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by Olaus J. Murie

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the added fascination of dealing with species less familiar to Americans. The text accounts concentrate on the one goal of providing means to identify the birds, and the common names used in various countries are added. The maps are clear and give information about migrational behavior and occurrence. The list of accidentals includes birds from Africa and Asia, and a surprising number of North American forms, the appearance of some of which in Europe is quite astonishing.

Naturally, every bird student whose path leads to Europe will carry a copy of this guide with him. More sedentary Americans would do well to acquire it for their libraries, for with it one may explore the beauties of European birds, even though he stays at home. As an ex-serviceman, your reviewer spent some enjoyable moments browsing through the pages, renewing memories of the hoopoes that alighted on his ship in the Straits of Gibraltar, and the friendly blue tits he watched in the park at Westport, England, on the day the church bells first rang out after the threat of invasion had passed.—F.M.P.

A FIELD GUIDE TO ANIMAL TRACKS, by Olaus J. Murie. Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston, 1954. Illustrated. Bibliography. Index. 375 pages. Price \$3.75.

This guide supplements *A Field Guide to the Mammals*, which also is one of the books in the internationally famous Peterson Field Guide Series. In our explorations of national parks and other wild lands, we usually have little trouble seeing the birds; but it is different with the mammals, many of which are either extremely shy or are night wanderers. Yet, we are often aware of the presence of mammals, for we see their tracks in sand and along muddy trails and stream banks. Although a few tracks, such as that of the raccoon, are familiar to almost everyone, there are all too many that we are unable to recognize. Now at last, with the aid of *A Field Guide to Ani-*

mal Tracks, we can identify a track with as much certainty as we would identify a bird or a butterfly. This book is illustrated with hundreds of line drawings by the author, showing the mammal, its footprints and its droppings. Texts give information about the illustrations, and they tell numerous interesting facts about the animals and their habits. At the back of the book there are several additional chapters on the tracks of birds, amphibians and reptiles, and on insects and other invertebrates, as well as a section on twigs and limbs, and on horn and bone chewing.

This is an important addition, not only to the Peterson series, but to the growing wealth of literature on nature.

**A FIELD GUIDE TO ROCKS AND MINERALS**, by Frederick H. Pough. Published by Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston, 1953. Illustrated. Glossary and index. 333 pages. Price \$3.75.

This, like the two foregoing books, belongs to the excellent Peterson Field Guide Series, and like all the others in the series, it has been edited by Roger Tory Peterson. Here, rocks and minerals are treated in the same convenient way that the birds, mammals, sea shells and butterflies and all the other works of nature have been treated in the series. Here, identification can be made with equal assurance. Perhaps the most amazing feature of the book is its wide assortment of illustrations. Although there are hundreds of line and halftone reproductions, the color illustrations, seventy-two in all, are singularly appealing. Made from color film, they reveal the glowing, glittering brilliance of mineral ores, precious stones and dozens of kinds of brightly colored rocks. The book is presented in two parts, Part I being divided into six chapters covering such subjects as your mineral collection; rocks and minerals and where to find them; physical properties of minerals; crystal classifications and tests, and techniques and tips. Part II, which comprises the main body of the book, de-

scribes the rocks and minerals, and illustrates them. A typical text tells where a rock or mineral may be found, gives its crystal description, its composition, tells how it reacts to chemical and physical tests and, finally, describes its distinguishing characteristics. The chemical formula for each is given, as well as various other interesting facts. The book is ideal for both the budding "rock hound" and the trained geologist.

**DEATH VALLEY**, with photographs by Ansel Adams, story by Nancy Newhall, guide by Ruth Kirk and maps by Edith Hamlin. Published by 5 Associates, San Francisco, 1954. Fifty-six pages 12" x 9". Paper Cover. Price \$2.50.

This book presents the history of Death Valley and describes its beauty in word and photograph. The superb photography of Ansel Adams hardly needs praise, for it is now well known to national park and monument enthusiasts everywhere. Here, Mr. Adams is at his best, not only in the rich effects that only he seems able to capture on black and white film, but also in color. Ten of his Death Valley color masterpieces are reproduced in this publication, including a scene of the snow-capped Panamints touched by the first morning light, reflected in the pool at Bad Water; the startling earth colors of Artist's Palette; a view into Ubehebe Crater; the sand dunes ablaze in the sunrise, and a full center spread, 12" x 18", of that incomparable scene of the valley from a mile above it, at Dante's View on the Black Mountains. Eight pages at the back of the book constitute a guide to the Valley. This offers all kinds of suggestions for the prospective visitor, and describes the important plants, trees, mammals and birds of the area. Aptly called the "definitive book on Death Valley," this will give pleasure to anyone interested in knowing more about this strangest of our national monuments, whether they plan to go there or not; and it will renew memories of those

who have explored this fantastic desert wonderland.

**POINT LOBOS WILDFLOWERS**, by Ken Legg.

Published by the State of California Department of Natural Resources, Division of Beaches and Parks, 1954. Illustrated. Thirty-six pages. Paper cover. Price 50 cents.

The author of this attractive booklet was for several years a park warden at Point Lobos Reserve State Park, near Carmel, and had the best opportunity to become well acquainted with the flora of this popular little reservation on the California coast. The illustrations, twelve of them in color, have been made from the excellent water color paintings of Roland A. Wilson, who was the park's chief ranger for many years. Forty-four of the area's more common or showy flowers are treated; while a check list is included that gives the names of the nearly 300 plants that have been identified in the park to date. The descriptive texts tell where each species can be found in the reserve, and a map showing the road and trail systems, names the various coves, heads, meadows, ridges and wooded areas, enabling the visitor to find the plants. Blossoming dates are also given. This booklet should add greatly to the enjoyment and enlightenment of visitors to Point Lobos Reserve, and it is to be hoped that other booklets on natural history will be produced, not only for this park, but for many of the other wonderful state parks of California.

**NATURE RECREATION**, by William G. Vinal.

Published by the American Humane Education Society, 180 Longwood Avenue, Boston 15. Revised and reprinted in 1954. Illustrated. 322 pages. Price \$3.50.

The purpose of this book is to serve as an aid to nature education. Probably no other book offers as thorough a coverage of ideas for parents and youth leaders to help young people reap the spiritual har-

vest available to them through contact with nature and outdoor living. Only one like Dr. Vinal, who has a sincere appreciation of nature and years of leadership experience in interpreting it, could produce a work of such detail. A mere perusal of the book forces wonderment over the wealth of ideas and suggestions it offers. Designed not only for educators and youth leaders already engaged in interpreting nature to youth groups, it should prove invaluable also to those who have as yet had no such experience, but who have been seeking advice on procedure; for even the most elementary phases of organizing nature study classes and clubs have not been overlooked. In five chapters, Part I deals with *The Philosophy of Nature Recreation*; while Part II, entitled *Applied Nature Recreation*, covers this subject in eight chapters, among which are the approach to leadership, tools for leadership in field work, leadership responsibilities on the hike and overnight trip, and administrative leadership in the community program for nature recreation. The author stresses the importance of stimulating in the young a proper attitude toward nature—protect nature—and he brings out the need for promoting a humane attitude toward animals.

On page 308, a directory of national organizations, whose work is related to nature education, and their publications, is out of date, and should be extensively revised in the next printing.

**UNTAMED OLYMPICS**, by Ruby El Hult.

Published by Binsford and Mort, Portland, Oregon, 1954. Map and illustrations. 267 pages. Index. Price \$3.50.

Seldom has a national park been brought forth with more travail, or, once established, suffered such savage attacks as the wilderness wonderland on Washington's Olympic Peninsula. Vividly and accurately, Miss Hult tells the story of the battles to save the Roosevelt elk and the incomparable rain forests of the Hoh, the Bogachiel, the Calawah and the Quinault, with their giant

firs and spruces shimmering with pendant mosses. Preservation of the heart of the Olympics forever is the climax of one of the most interesting books yet written about the setting of an American national park.

The account starts with the legends and life of the Indian peoples, and the discovery of Puget Sound as the fabled Northwest Passage. Spanish, British and early Americans vied for control of the superb harbors and the luxuriant forests along the shores. The wild days of Port Townsend's growth and decline, the vigorous feuds between new-born settlements for dominance, and the dramatic personalities that played their roles here, give the reader a clear impression of the exploration and the trials of what was the last-lingering true frontier in the United States. Then, while the fifty peaks of the Olympic range were scaled under incredible rigors, the majestic forests near the coasts were exploited in a boom and bust economy that knew no mercy. Fortunate was it indeed that some of the finest primeval forests grew in inaccessible inland valleys, and that repeated attempts to throw logging railroads into them failed.

Members of the National Parks Association well know how difficult has been the task of safeguarding the forests now within Olympic National Park. Those who have visited this miraculous area recognize how well worthwhile the effort has been. Miss Hult, while ardently supporting protection of the park, has a clear eye for the needs of the peninsula and its people. The days of cut out and get out lumbering are over, and henceforth the timber economy must be planned for permanence. It is stable and thriving; but she warns that for security the peninsula should diversify its economy.

Although more than half a million people visited the great park last year, the communities have not made much effort to provide accommodations for them or to recognize the value of the national park to their permanent welfare. When the proposed bridges cross the Hood Canal the

quaint isolation of the peninsula will be gone; but over these bridges will come more people to enjoy the wonders of their park. It is to be hoped that then the park will be known for the asset it is, and the perennial attempts to destroy its integrity will cease.

*Untamed Olympics* is recommended to everyone interested in his national parks, whether he can visit the Olympic peninsula or not. It is a fine book.—F.M.P.

THE WILDERNESS WORLD OF JOHN MUIR,  
edited by Edwin Way Teale. Published  
by Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston,  
1954. Illustrated. 332 pages. Index. Price  
\$4.50.

John Muir was the most eloquent and powerful voice raised in defense of nature, and a prime mover in the beginnings of the national park system in those early days when the concept that men should live with nature, rather than combat her, was a fresh idea. He was a wonderful man, whose surging appreciation of the beauty and marvels of the outdoors, interpreted in some of the grandest prose ever written, reached across the continent and around the world.

His writings fill many volumes, all a delight to read. For all of us who should know them, but do not, Edwin Way Teale has selected the choicest narratives, and arranged them in chronological order, so that this book is a kind of autobiography.

Muir's father was a stern Victorian Scotsman, who trained his son with the aid of birch, to which John attributed his rugged stoicism, his perseverance and his thoroughness in any task.

The far west called him, and he emigrated to California. There, the High Sierra beckoned, and in Yosemite Valley he made his home for several years. He approached the great valley as an interpreter of spiritual eloquence, and with the integrity of a scientist. At dawn, or in the moonlight, alone, he climbed towering crags to ab-

sorb the delicacy of Yosemite Falls, to marvel at incredible snow-banners blowing from the peaks, or simply to enjoy the antics of impudent chickarees. Nowhere in literature is there a more charming or perceptive account of bird behavior than Muir's story of the homelife of the water ouzel.

He loved trees and rocks and flowers and wildlife. He could not understand how men could bear to destroy them wantonly. "There is a love of wild nature in everybody, an ancient mother-love ever showing itself, whether recognized or no, and however covered by cares and duties." "The clearest way into the Universe is through a forest wilderness." "Only by going alone in silence, without baggage, can one truly get into the heart of the wilderness."

Whoever has not met John Muir should seize the opportunity offered by this book. It is designed for pleasant reading, and the drawings by Henry B. Kane add to the enjoyment. The friendly dedication reads: "To the Sierra Club, The Wilderness Society, The National Parks Association and all those who are fighting the good fight to preserve what John Muir sought to save."—*F.M.P.*

## LETTERS

I feel that I have missed a great deal in the past, but now that I am receiving your splendid magazine, with its informative articles and excellent pictures, it seems to me that new vistas shall be opened both to myself and my family.

Mrs. Elmer L. Field  
Ramsey, New Jersey

I applaud the NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE, and in fact your whole program.

Cornelia Woodworth Ryder  
Berkeley, California

I recently read the July-September issue of your NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE. It was in the school library at Richmond Union High, where I am presently doing my teaching. I

was quite thrilled. For years, I have stood for the very things that you as an association advocate. I hope to be as active a member as I can. I believe that the protection of our parks and wildlife refuges is the duty and privilege of every citizen.

Ted Swift  
El Cerrito, California

May God bless our National Park Service and all the noble rangers who make so many sacrifices, and you and your wonderful staff, who keep this important phase of American life from crumbling under the hammer of politics and selfish interests. When St. Peter opens the golden gates for you, it will be revealed to you that you have helped to save many homes, kept families united, and saved souls and minds. Think of this when you are heart-sick and discouraged.

Mrs. E. V. P. Schneiderhahn  
Saint Louis, Missouri

### Exploring Our National Parks and Monuments

I am deep in the fourth edition. It is certainly most interesting and stimulating. I should think every American would want to see the wonders. I am impressed at the tremendous lot of work it must have been to produce it. The ancient cave dwellers always fascinate me and there is plenty about them in this book.

Mrs. H. A. B. Day  
Providence, R. I.

I would be glad to receive information on the work of your Association and what I can do to help. I have spent the last three summers in our national parks and have recently studied Devereux Butcher's book, *Exploring Our National Parks and Monuments*. I am interested in our parks and would like to feel that I could do something to help in the work of the National Parks Association.

M. Harlan Bye  
Primos, Pennsylvania

Magnificent! You are doing great work. Admired the way you repeatedly stress the basic philosophy of a true champion of a national nature sanctuary, and *Temples Not Built with Hands* is masterly. It is a privilege to know about your work.

A. Edward Fisher  
Washington, D. C.



